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HUNGARIAN-SOVIET SOCIETY ELECTS OFFICERS -- Munich, Hungaria, 19 Jan 51

The national directorate named by the congress of the Hungarian-Soviet Society (MSzT) recently elected new members of its presidium. The majority of the 46 members are physical laborers. Intellectuals on the list are:

Father Balogh, the famous "red bishop" Albert Bereczky, Minister of Agriculture Ferenc Erdei, Master Sergeant Olga Foldvari, state manager of the National Theater and Kossuth-prize winner Endre Gellert, Professor and Kossuth-prize winner Barna Gyorffy, Dean of the University of Debrecen Lajos Imre, sculptor and Kossuth-prize winner Zsigmond Kisfaludy-Strobl, Academician Professor Gyula Nemeth, president of the Academy of Sciences Istvan Rusnyak, Professor and Kossuth-prize winner Elemer Schulek, author and Kossuth-prize winner Peter Veres, and Chancellor of the Technical University Imre Voros.

NEW HUNGARIAN CHIEF OF STAFF WAS SOVIET COLONEL -- Rome, Bolletino Danubiano, 3 Nov 50

According to confidential information, General Istvan Bata, the newly appointed Chief of the Hungarian General Staff, was a colonel in the Soviet General Staff prior to his appointment. Although General Bata has a good command of the Hungarian language, he speaks it with a foreign accent.

Bata's appointment was resolved by Soviet circles in view of the poor training and spirit of the Hungarian armed forces, which became evident in the course of the joint Hungarian-Rumanian-Bulgarian-Soviet maneuvers last September.

DR ISTVAN RIESZ DEAD -- Rome, Bolletino Danubiano, 3 Nov 50

It is reported that Dr Istvan Riesz died in prison suddenly. Dr Riesz was arrested by the political police a few months ago and was subsequently transferred to the Vac penitentiary. It is rumored that he was slain in the course of an interrogation, although other reports attribute his death to a stroke.

Dr Riesz is remembered for his servility to the Communist regime in Hungary during his 5-year tenure as Minister of Justice. He was responsible for the new Hungarian penal code which cost hundreds of thousands of Hungarians life, liberty, family, and property. He was also an ardent advocate for the incorporation of the Social Democratic Party into the Communist Party, and for the persecution of his former comrades. He accumulated an enormous fortune by accepting heavy bribes for the release of political prisoners.

EXPEL FORMER HUNGARIAN DIPLOMAT FROM FRANCE -- Rome, Bolletino Danubiano, 3 Nov 50

The French government has expelled George Szekeres as an undesirable alien. Szekeres was expelled from France together with Spanish and Polish Communists. His present whereabouts is unknown.

In 1948-49, Szekeres was, as First Counselor of the Hungarian Legation at Rome, actively engaged in establishing relations between the Hungarian Communist Party and leading Italian Communists. He was a close friend of Di Vittorio and of Senator Reale, and also had connections with Luigi Longo.

Szekeres was recalled to Hungary at the beginning of 1950. However, he did not obey the order and went to France where he joined the Hungarian Titoist movement.

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During the German occupation Szekeres lived in France and married the daughter of the director of a large Communist publishing house at Paris.

LASZLO SULLNER, FORGER OF THE MINDSZENTY DOCUMENTS, POISONED -- Rome, Bollettino Danubiano, 3 Nov 50

Laszlo Sullner, former graphology expert of the Budapest political police, who forged the documents in the Mindszenty trial, died in the American Hospital at Paris last week. The cause of his death was heart failure due to poisoning. Presumably, Sullner was poisoned by order of the Bolsheviks.

Sullner and his wife fled from Hungary after the Mindszenty trial. He carried abroad a microfilm negative of the forged documents, and published in the foreign press an account of his role in the trial and details of how the Bolshevik regime prepares a sensational political trial.

JANKO NOW ASSOCIATE JUSTICE -- Innsbruck, Unio Press Service, 9 Jan 51

Dr Peter Janko, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who presided as Chief Justice in the Szalasi case, has been named Associate Justice (masod Elnok). Janko was the only senior Communist on the bench. Because he constantly figured in street and restaurant incidents, he retired to the background after the Szalasi case. The police and the public were often involved in scenes which he created, and he was unable to lead, and was not permitted to take part in open discussion.

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